



Michael Lampe aka Original Fellow is a music producer, entrepreneur and art lover who was born and raised in Aruba. In his role as a music producer he has many hits under his belt, including some with Aruban superstar Janiro Eisdén (AtaNiro) and Ritmo Real. Currently living in Amsterdam, Fellow still manages to inspire and motivate the youth back home. He recently opened an art studio called BEAM in Aruba and was a guest speaker at the TEDx Curaçao event. Go Weekly sat down with this multi-talented artist to elaborate on his career and future endeavors.

Tell us about Michael Lampe.

‘I was born and raised in Aruba. I’m currently living in Amsterdam. I work under the alias Original Fellow. I also have a project called Datapanik. I produce for different artists, I’m a DJ and I work in the creative/artistic sector.’

How did you come up with the alias (Original) Fellow?

‘I was looking for an artistic name to promote myself and the name Fellow popped up. Fellow stands for friend or brother. I am your fellow when I work with you and when we hang out.’

Your music is very much influenced by urban and Caribbean sounds. How do you categorize your music?

'As a DJ/producer I categorize my music as electronic with Caribbean flavors. Or as I call it "Island driven music". We have so many influences on the islands in regards to music. That is what makes our own music so rich and diverse. The diversity is an inspiration for me when I make music.'

What type of music do you listen to?

'I listen to many types of music. As I said before, we are blessed to have so many music influences on the island, but I also love to listen to music that is not mainstream. I often seek new, non-commercial music for inspiration. The challenge for a DJ is, to give the audience something they can understand yet still be innovative and new.'

What inspires you to produce a certain track?

'It comes from different things. When I work with vocalists, I write something that I know would fit their style, but still takes them a bit out of their comfort zone. Inspiration also comes from the things around me and from past and present experiences.'

Do you have a particular artist that you would like to collaborate with?

'I have many people I still want to work with. From producers to vocalists. I keep an eye on what's hot on the islands. I am currently working with local artists like Ori, AtaNiro, Immo and Jamaican dancehall artist Cecile. I have a long list of international artists I would love to work with in the future.'

You recently opened BEAM in Aruba. What is it about?

'I felt that there was a need for a creative platform on the island. BEAM is a creative center where different artists can expose their art and creativity, whether it is music, dance, painting, poetry etc. It is open to every discipline in the art field. We also give workshops and lectures. We want to inspire people to be creative.'

What are the future plans for Original Fellow?

'Besides producing, DJing and BEAM, I will soon travel to Bogota, Colombia. I was invited by the Dutch embassy to participate in an artistic exchange between international and local artists. I will soon release

an album called 'Island Driven', which will feature the artists I mentioned previously, but also AtaNiro and others. Like the title says, it is very island driven and influenced by the sounds of the region. I also have a new Datapanik project and a tour coming up.'

Check out more about Original Fellow, Datapanik and BEAM on Facebook, Youtube and Instagram.

By Hayson Nicholls

Source: <http://www.go-weekly.com/site/michael-lampe-the-original-fellow/>